



# TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD

Public Safety Committee  
Town Hall, 50 South Main Street, Room 312  
November 1, 2018  
8:00 AM

## **MINUTES**

### **Attendance**

Leon Davidoff (Chair), Shari Cantor (via phone), Liam Sweeney (via phone), Chris Williams, Chris Barnes (via phone) Ben Wenograd (via phone)

### **Staff**

Matt Hart (Town Manager), Dan Coppinger (Assistant Police Chief), Vernon Riddick (Police Chief), Mike Sinsigalli (Assistant Fire Chief), Greg Priest (Assistant Fire Chief), Gary Allyn (Fire Chief)

### **Members of the Public**

#### **1. Call to Order**

Councilor Davidoff called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM. He thanked Chief Allyn for his commitment to the Town of West Hartford over the last 30 years. On behalf of the committee, the Chair wished Chief a healthy, happy retirement.

#### **2. Staff Reports/Communications**

- a. The committee received the October 4, 2018 meeting minutes.

#### **3. Police Department Update**

Chief Riddick provided a brief department update. The department is restructuring and reorganizing its Detective Division. The DE and SID will be separate units and will be ran by sergeants. An organizational chart will be shared with the committee at the December meeting.

The department is working to get its canine unit up and running. There are plans to have two officers and two dogs. Staff is very excited about this initiative as the canine unit has been beneficial to the Town.

The department provided additional coverage for Halloween with special attention to New Britain Avenue. There were no major issues.

The department assisted Farmington with a stabbing last night.

Extra coverage was also provided for the vigil held in honor of the Pittsburgh shooting victims. Chief Riddick has met with the head of the FBI (CT) and the department is working to develop a safety and security training for educational purposes. Staff is also providing security audits to all places of worship in town, free of charge.

#### **4. Fire Department Update**

Chief Allyn provided a brief update on recent activity, including three structural fires. He distributed a handout comparing statistics from last month's meeting.

He provided an update on the Public Safety Radio System. The Hartford Insurance Group work is nearly complete. The Stanley Golf Course antennas and microwaves are in place and are awaiting power and structure at the site. The WCC building permit has been pulled. Mountain equipment has arrived at Hamilton Heights. The Station Alerting has been installed and the final acceptance process has started.

Keith Victor was one of 13 candidates receiving the SAFECOM membership from the United States. SAFECOM is managed by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Office of Emergency Communications (OEC). SAFECOM has created key documents to assist emergency responders nationwide with improving communications and interoperability across local, state, regional, tribal, international, and federal entities.

The department is working with surrounding communities on interoperable communications for responses, including radio templates and intercoms between PSAPs.

The fire study is progressing. The data analysis is in progress with sample mapping due in the next couple of weeks. Staff continues to wait for information from AMR.

Chief Allyn concluded his report with a personnel update. Six recruits continue training at the Hartford Fire Academy with good progress. January 18<sup>th</sup> is the expected graduation date.

#### **5. Adjournment**

The next Public Safety committee is scheduled for Thursday, December 6, 2018. Councilor Davidoff adjourned the meeting at 8:21 AM.